Classical Languages and Literature

College of Arts and Humanities
1210 Marie Mount Hall
301-405-2013 or 301-405-2014
ldoherty@umd.edu (Chair) or jbarrene@umd.edu (UG advisor)
www.classics.umd.edu

The department offers three different undergraduate major tracks and three minors. Many of our courses can also be used to fulfill General Education and/or CORE requirements.

We offer instruction under three different headings: CLAS, GREK, and LATN. CLAS courses deal with various aspects of the ancient world utilizing English language texts and works of Greek and Latin literature in English translation. CLAS courses do not provide instruction in the ancient languages nor will they satisfy the Global Engagement requirement (http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/globalengagement) in the College of Arts and Humanities (http://www.arhu.umd.edu). GREK and LATN courses utilize English language texts as well as material in Greek or Latin. They are designed to help students to master the Latin or Greek language and can be used to satisfy the College’s Global Engagement requirement.

Programs

Major

- Classics Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/classical-languages-literature/classics-major)

Minors

- Archaeology Minor (CLAS) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/classical-languages-literature/archaeology-minor)
- Classical Mythology Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/classical-languages-literature/classical-mythology-minor)
- Greek Language and Culture Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/classical-languages-literature/greek-language-culture-minor)
- Latin Language and Literature Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/classical-languages-literature/latin-language-literature-minor)

Advising

Advising

Departmental advising is mandatory for all majors every semester and is recommended for those seeking minors.

To review the academic plan for this major, go to http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/advising/academicplans

Opportunities

Undergraduate Research Experiences

The major culminates in a Capstone Course, in which students develop and present research which has grown out of their work in the field. Majors are encouraged to participate in undergraduate research conferences locally and nationally. The Department enables students to become involved in summer research opportunities and encourages all majors to seek internships.

Fieldwork Opportunities

Classics students have the opportunity to participate in summer archaeological fieldwork through our department and others in the university. Students may also pursue an interdisciplinary minor in archaeology. Contact Prof. Jorge Bravo (jbravo@umd.edu) or Prof. Lillian Doherty (LDoherty@umd.edu) for further information.

Internships

All Classics majors are encouraged to seek internships and there are many opportunities to do so in the Washington area.

Student Societies and Professional Organizations

Eta Sigma Phi is the national undergraduate Honor Society in Classics founded in 1914 at the University of Chicago. The University of Maryland’s chapter, Zeta Nu, was established in 1994. Students are invited to join in the spring semester. To qualify, a student must be registered in a 3xx- or 4xx-level Greek or Latin course, must have at least a “B+” average in all language courses, and an overall GPA of “B” or better.

Students can submit abstracts for papers to be presented at regional and national Classics conferences. They can also join the Society for Classical Studies, which is the national classics professional organization, and the Classical Association of the Atlantic States, which is our regional classical organization.

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state, and institutional financial assistance programs, and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: www.financialaid.umd.edu.

The Classics Department awards a number of special scholarships and awards, some reserved for Classics majors and others awarded to them in preference.

For Classics majors only. The Avery Prize is awarded annually to a Latin student of special merit and the Hubbe Prize to a Greek student of special merit. The Mildred Steyer Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded to one or more outstanding majors in Classics. The Odyssey scholarships support students who study abroad and other student needs. To honor the memory of Sylvia Gerber, who taught Latin for many years in the Washington, DC public schools, her son Louis has provided the department with funding to support the training of Latin teachers and Latin pedagogical studies, including an undergraduate award for an aspiring Latin teacher.

Thanks to a generous grant from the National Italian American Foundation, the department now offers a number of full or partial
scholarships for its winter term and early summer study abroad programs in Italy. These scholarships are awarded by preference to students majoring in Classics and related fields.

Awards and Recognition

Outstanding students in Greek and Latin are invited to join Eta Sigma Phi, the national undergraduate Honor Society in Classics (see Student Societies and Professional Organizations above).

The department also annually awards the Avery Prize for excellence in Latin, the Hubbe Prize for excellence in Greek, and the Steyer and Gerber Scholarships (see Scholarships and Financial Assistance above).